



# Northampton City Council Finance Committee

## October 16, 2014 MINUTES

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chairman*  
*Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge*

*Councilor Jesse M. Adams*  
*Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra*

The Finance Committee held a meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2014 in Council Chambers, Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA.

The meeting began at 7:35 p.m.

### ▪ ROLL CALL

*Roll call was taken and the following members were present: Councilor David A. Murphy, Councilor Jesse M. Adams, Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge, and Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra.*

October 16, 2014  7:35 p.m.	Finance City Council 2014-2015	Councilor David A. Murphy, Chairman	Councilor Jesse M. Adams	Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge	Councilor Gina- Louise Sciarra	Total
Roll Called by Pamela L. Powers, Clerk of the City Council		Present	Present	Present	Present	4 Present 0 Absent

### 1. 14.260 Financial Order: Florence Recreational Fields \$162,500

*Councilor Adams moved to return the order to City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.*

*Mayor Narkewicz indicated that a new Pavilion at Florence Fields will allow the DPW to hold equipment for maintenance of the field on site. He requested to have the Council suspend rules to allow for a second reading this evening. The purpose of this is to give the opportunity for the project to begin sooner.*

*Councilor Adams moved to recognize Recreation Director Ann-Marie Moggio; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.*

*Director Moggio explained that the project will have the following: Rest room facilities for men's, women's & families, a concession area, a sitting area w/ picnic tables, areas to store DPW equipment and sports equipment, and a meeting area for teams/officials, etc.; The building is a zero energy project which means the building will have solar panels installed to heat water and provide electricity. Director Moggio would like the project to be completed in time for the Spring Sports season.*

### 2. 14.262 Financial Order: \$15,000 appropriated for Merchant Service Fees associated with Credit Card use at E.J. Gare Parking Garage

*Councilor Sciarra moved to send the Financial Order to City Council with a positive recommendation; Councilor LaBarge seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.*

*The Mayor explained that a new entry system is installed in the garage; it has the capability to accept credit cards. This feature means that a new line item in the parking budget needs to be added so that fees associated with credit card use can be easily tracked.*

*Finance Director Susan Wright explained that a separate agency will collect the parking fees when a credit card is used and will arrange for the charges to be forwarded to the credit card companies. Allowing for the use of credit cards means that fees will be deducted from the total parking fee collected. This line item will be used to pay for the fees. There are three fees:*

- 1. Interchange fee—the bank that issues the credit card will get that fee—this fee is set by the bank;*
- 2. “Visa/Master Card”, etc. fee”—this fee is set by the bank;*
- 3. Processing fee-- paid to the processor who will make all of these transactions happen—this is the only fee that we can control by contracting with our choice of a processing agency.*

*As a debit card function with a pin-pad feature costs significantly more, the system will only allow for credit cards at this time.*

*At 8:15 p.m. Councilor Adams made a motion to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting; Councilor Sciarra seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Powers  
Clerk to City Council, [powers@northamptonma.gov](mailto:powers@northamptonma.gov)*